

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
WESTERN DIVISION**

JOHN CAPANNARI <i>et al.</i> ,	:	Civil Action No. 1:13-cv-0083
	:	
Plaintiffs,	:	Judge Michael R. Barrett
	:	Magistrate Judge Stephanie Bowman
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
GLEN GALEMMO, <i>et al.</i> ,	:	
	:	
Defendants.	:	

CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Class Action Settlement Agreement (“Settlement Agreement”) is entered into on this ____ day of June, 2015, by John Capannari, John A. Anderson and Kevin Eickmann (the “Plaintiffs”), on behalf of themselves and the Class (as defined below), and Defendant Irwin Cohen (referred to as “Defendant” or the “Cohen”) (Plaintiffs and Defendants shall be referred to as the “Parties”), and, subject to approval by the Court, resolve, discharge, and settle all claims by Plaintiffs and the Class against Cohen fully, finally, and forever according to the terms and conditions set forth below.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, prior to July 17, 2013, Glen Galemmo (“Galemmo”) purported to be an investment advisor providing investment services to persons and entities;

WHEREAS, on or about July 17, 2013, Galemmo notified his investors that his businesses had ceased operation and subsequent investigations revealed that Galemmo had perpetrated a scheme to defraud his investors;

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs, individuals who invested more money with Galemmo than was distributed to them, enter into this Settlement Agreement on behalf of themselves individually and all members of the Class, as defined below;

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs have alleged Cohen received distributions from Galemmo and/or the Galemmo Defendants and/or the Galemmo Entities, as those terms are defined in the Second Amended Class Action Complaint for Violations of Federal Securities Laws; State Laws; and

Damages; and Verified Limited Liability Company Member Derivative Complaint, which was filed in *Capannari, et al. v. Galemme, et al.*, Case No. 1:13-CV-00883 (the "Litigation") on November 24, 2014, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio (Western Division) ("Second Amended Complaint"), in excess of the amount he invested with or otherwise provided to him and/or them;

WHEREAS, Cohen has denied and continues to deny all of the claims and allegations in the Litigation, states that he acted lawfully and properly at all times and denies that he ever engaged in any wrongdoing, improper conduct, breach of duties or violation of law;

WHEREAS, the Litigation was commenced with the filing of a Complaint on December 3, 2013, and has since been twice amended;

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs filed a Motion for Class Certification pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure ("Rule" or "Rules") 23 (b) (1) (A), 23 (b) (1) (B), 23 (b) (2) and 23 (b) (3) on June 12, 2014;

WHEREAS, Counsel for Plaintiffs and counsel for Defendant have engaged in extensive discovery and settlement discussions and have agreed to enter into this Settlement Agreement;

WHEREAS, the pleadings and discovery in this and related actions have revealed the existence of contested issues of fact and law, as well as issues relating to the collectability of any judgment which might or might not be obtained;

WHEREAS, as noted above Cohen denies any liability or wrongdoing, whether asserted in the Second Amended Complaint or otherwise and wishes to enter into this Settlement Agreement solely for the purpose of settling and compromising the claims of the Class and to avoid the time, expense, and distraction that continued litigation would involve;

WHEREAS, counsel for Plaintiffs has made an investigation into the facts and circumstances relevant to the allegations made against Cohen in this action and believes they have achieved a valuable and fair settlement and compromise of the claims asserted by Plaintiffs individually and on behalf of the Class;

WHEREAS, counsel for Plaintiffs also have evaluated the expense and length of time necessary to prosecute this case against Cohen through trial, taking into account the uncertainties of predicting the duration or outcome of complex litigation as well as the collectability of any judgment which may be obtained; and

WHEREAS, based upon consideration of all these factors and the terms of this Settlement Agreement, counsel for Plaintiffs has concluded (i) that it is desirable and in the best interest of Plaintiffs and the Class to settle with Cohen as set forth in this Settlement Agreement, which will result in substantial immediate benefits to Plaintiffs and members of the Class and (ii) that the settlement provided for herein represents a fair and reasonable resolution of the claims of the Class against Cohen;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, which shall be deemed an integral part of this Settlement Agreement, the Settlement Fund (as defined below) and other covenants and agreements set forth in this Settlement Agreement, including, but not limited to, the payments, releases, and dismissal with prejudice of all claims in the Litigation against Cohen, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows.

AGREEMENT

II. Definitions

In addition to terms defined elsewhere in this Settlement Agreement, the following defined terms used in this Settlement Agreement have the meanings described below.

2.01 “Class” means all persons and entities, individually and collectively, who invested money in or through Galemmo, Galemmo Defendants and/or Galemmo Entities from January 1, 2002 to July 26, 2013, and suffered a net loss (i.e., the funds invested exceeded the total of all funds received in the form of purported income or return of principal).

2.02 “Class Counsel” means the law firms of Cummins & Brown, LLC and Strauss Troy Co. LPA.

2.03 “Class Member” means a member of the Class.

2.04 “Class Notice” means the notice of this Settlement Agreement mailed to Class Members.

2.05 “Effective Date” means the date by which (i) the Settlement Agreement is finally approved in all respects by the Court, (ii) a Final Approval Order as described in section 2.07 below has been entered, and (iii) the time for appeal from such entry of the Final Approval Order shall have expired without the filing of a timely notice of appeal or, if one or more appeals are taken, the date by which such appeal(s) shall have been finally determined by the highest court before which appellate review is sought and upon such final appeal, the Final Approval Order is affirmed in all respects.

2.06 “Final Hearing” means the hearing at which the Court will consider any objections to the Settlement Agreement and hear evidence and legal argument in support of, or in opposition to, entry of the Final Approval Order.

2.07 “Final Approval Order” means the judgment entered by the Court in accordance with Rule 23, approving this Settlement Agreement.

2.08 “Preliminary Approval Motion” means a motion jointly requesting that the Court preliminarily approve this Settlement Agreement and enter the Preliminary Approval Order.

2.09 “Preliminary Approval Order” means the order entered by the Court preliminarily approving the terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement and the manner of providing notice to the Class.

2.10 “Preliminary Hearing” means the hearing set by this Court in advance of the Final Settlement Hearing to review this Settlement Agreement and all issues related thereto in order to determine on a preliminary basis whether the proposed settlement meets criteria pursuant to Rule 23.

2.11 “Settled Claims” means all claims that are or could have been asserted by Plaintiffs and/or members of the Class against Cohen and his respective heirs, executors, administrators, and successors in interest, and any Subsequent Transferee(s) (as defined below) of Cohen arising out of or in any way relating to Galemmo, the Galemmo Defendants and/or the Galemmo Entities, any investment with or monies provided to him, it and/or them, and/or any distribution to or on behalf of Cohen from him, including but not limited to, any and all manner of actions and causes of action, suits, obligations, claims, debts, demands, agreements, promises, covenants, contracts, liabilities, controversies, costs, expenses and attorneys’ fees, of any nature whatsoever, in law or in equity, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, matured or unmatured, accrued or not accrued, direct or indirect, which Plaintiffs and the Class Members, or any of them, ever had, now have or can, shall or may hereafter have, against Cohen, either alone or in combination with others, arising from or relating to Cohen’s involvement with, relationship to, or receipt of funds from Galemmo, the Galemmo Defendants, and/or any of the Galemmo Entities. The term “Settled Claims” shall not include any person or entity other than Cohen (and his respective heirs, executors, administrators and successors in interest) except as expressly set forth in this section 2.11. Subsequent Transferee has the meaning provided in the Uniform

Fraudulent Transfer Act. The release of any Subsequent Transferee(s) provided in this Section 2.11 extends only to claims arising from or related to any transfer from Cohen, is limited to the amount of such transfer from Cohen, and does not release any other claims of the Class against any Subsequent Transferee, including but not limited to any such claims arising from or related to any direct transfer or payment to and Subsequent Transferee from Galemмо, the Galemмо Defendants, and/or the Galemмо Entities.

2.12 “Settlement Fund” means the monetary sum identified in section 4.01 below. The amount of the Settlement Fund will be held in the Strauss Troy Trust Account until a joint escrow account is established for the settlements in this case and in *James T. Uren, et al. v. William Scoville*, et al. Case No. A1406892 (Hamilton Cty. C.P.), and *Cynthia Khoo-Robinson, et al. v. Michael Willner*, et al., Case No. A1401348, (Hamilton Cty. C.P.) (the “State Court Actions”). Because the settlement provided for herein and the Class encompass all of the members of the Class sought to be represented in the State Court Actions and the claims asserted in the State Court actions shall be released and discharged upon approval of this Settlement Agreement, the parties in these cases intend to seek approval of a joint plan of allocation for distribution of these funds to the Class. These funds will be available to satisfy Cohen’s monetary obligations under this Settlement Agreement immediately upon the Effective Date.

III. Compromise of Disputed Claims.

This Settlement Agreement is a compromise of disputed claims. Neither this Settlement Agreement, nor any action taken by Cohen in furtherance of this Settlement Agreement, is intended to be, or should be construed to be, an admission or concession by Cohen of liability to the Plaintiffs or the Class, collectively or individually. Cohen has denied and continues to deny all of the claims and allegations in the Litigation, state that they acted lawfully and properly at all times and deny that they ever engaged in any wrongdoing, improper conduct, breach of duties or violation of law. The Parties do not intend for this Settlement Agreement, or the terms of the Settlement Agreement, to be admissible in any subsequent proceeding in this case, or in any other lawsuit, arbitration, administrative action, or any judicial or administrative proceeding involving Galemмо, the Galemмо Defendants, and/or the Galemмо Entities if offered to show, demonstrate, evidence, or support a contention of wrongdoing by Cohen.

IV. Settlement and Release.

4.01 Upon the execution of this Settlement Agreement, Cohen shall pay \$30,000 into the Settlement Fund and, within forty-five (45) days of execution of the Settlement Agreement, shall pay an additional \$70,000 into the Settlement Fund. The total settlement payment due from Cohen shall be \$100,000, which will be paid into the Settlement Fund. Class Counsel shall hold that amount for the benefit of the Class, subject to the provisions of Article V below.

4.02 Payment of the Settlement Fund shall be the only financial obligation of Cohen.

Cohen shall have no other liability or responsibility of any kind to the Plaintiffs, Class Members, or Class Counsel for payment of funds to Class Members, attorneys’ fees, court costs, settlement administration costs, division or amounts of distributions between Class Members, or any other thing or matter on account of or related to the settlement provided by this Settlement Agreement.

The Settlement Fund may be used to pay for the costs of Notice of Settlement that will be sent to

the Class.

4.03 Upon the Effective Date and payment of the amount set forth in section 4.01 above, Plaintiffs and all Class Members (except as set forth in section 6.06 of this Settlement Agreement) and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, representatives, agents, successors, and assigns, shall be deemed to (and by operation of the judgment in the Final Approval Order shall) fully, finally, and forever release and forever discharge the Settled Claims. Payment of the amount set forth in section 4.01 above shall discharge all financial obligations of Cohen to Plaintiffs and the Class, individually and collectively.

V. Administration and Distribution of the Settlement Funds

5.01 The Settlement Fund will be distributed, pursuant to order(s) of the Court and subject to Court-approved deductions for attorneys' fees, expenses and administration costs (the "Net Settlement Fund"), to members of the Class. No distributions of the Settlement Fund will be made for any reason without a plan of allocation for the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund being approved by the Court. Cohen shall have no responsibility or obligation concerning distribution or division of the Net Settlement Fund among Plaintiffs, Class Members or Class Counsel.

5.02 Class Counsel will request reimbursement of expenses, and costs for settlement administration from the amounts deposited and interest accrued on the Settlement Fund, in an amount to be determined by the Court. Additionally, Plaintiffs and Class Counsel will file a motion with this Court for approval of payment of attorneys' fees in an amount to be determined by the Court. Plaintiffs may also suggest that the Court award an appropriate amount as an incentive payment to them as Class representatives to compensate them for their time and reward their dedication towards the resolution of this case. Cohen shall have no responsibility, obligation or liability for or in connection with any fee request or fee award and Cohen's sole obligation shall be to pay the amount set forth in section 4.01 above.

5.03 After the Effective Date, any dispute relating to the processing of claims, the administration of the settlement, the identity of Class Members, or their entitlement to relief will be addressed first by counsel for Plaintiffs and, if there is no resolution, shall be submitted to the Court for resolution. Cohen shall have no responsibility or liability whatsoever regarding the resolution of any dispute relating to the processing of claims and/or the administration of the settlement.

VI. Procedure for Preliminary and Final Approval

6.01 As soon as practical after the execution of this Settlement Agreement by all of the Parties, their respective counsel shall jointly file a copy of the executed Settlement Agreement with the Preliminary Approval Motion requesting that the Court enter the Preliminary Approval Order. The Parties and their respective counsel shall in good faith support the prompt entry of the Preliminary Approval Order and undertake any and all reasonable efforts that in good faith are appropriate or necessary to obtain the Court's preliminary approval of this Agreement.

6.02 Upon entry of the Preliminary Approval Order, Class Counsel shall provide notice of this Settlement Agreement by: (A) mailing, by first-class United States mail, postage prepaid, a copy of the Notice, to members of the Class at their last known address and by sending a copy of the Notice by email to the extent such email addresses are known; (B) serving a copy of the Class Notice on all counsel of record in the cases consolidated before this Court concerning Galemmo, the Galemmo Defendants, and the Galemmo Entities; and (C) providing a copy of the Class Notice to counsel of record in any cases against Galemmo, the Galemmo Defendants, and/or the Galemmo Entities, including the class action case currently pending in the Hamilton County, Ohio Court of Common Pleas, and all related cases. The cost of the Notice will be paid out of the Settlement Fund.

6.03 If the Court enters the Preliminary Approval Order, that Order shall represent the Court's finding that the foregoing constitutes the best notice practicable under the circumstances and constitutes due and sufficient notice of the proposed Settlement Agreement and the Final Hearing.

6.04 Any Class Member who wishes to object to this Settlement Agreement must timely file a written objection ("Objection") on or before the deadline set forth in the Class Notice. The Objection shall include a statement of the net loss sustained by the person(s) objecting. Any Class Member who does not timely submit an Objection which complies with the requirements set forth in the Class Notice, or otherwise as ordered by the Court, shall not be treated as not having filed a valid Objection to the settlement provided by this Agreement. Any and all timely Objections shall be considered by the Court at the Final Hearing.

6.05 Any Class Member may attend the Final Hearing. No Class Member will be permitted to raise any objections at the Final Hearing that the Class Member could have raised in an Objection but did not.

6.06 Class Members may elect to "opt out" of this Settlement Agreement and thus exclude themselves from this case, the Class, and the terms of this Settlement Agreement. The Class Notice advises of this right. Class Members who wish to exercise this option must do so in writing by mail postmarked on or before the deadline set forth in the Class Notice. Otherwise, those Class Members will be deemed to have forever waived their right to opt out of the Settlement Class.

6.07 Plaintiffs and the Class expressly acknowledge that, in providing the benefits to the Class set forth in this Settlement Agreement, Cohen intends to achieve a full and complete settlement, compromise, resolution, release and termination of all differences between the releasing parties and the released party with respect to the matters within the scope of the Settled Claims and the dismissal of this action with prejudice.

6.08 At the Final Hearing, Plaintiffs, Class Counsel and counsel for Cohen will request that the Court enter the Final Approval Order, substantially in the form attached hereto or as otherwise agreed to by the Parties. The Parties and their counsel shall in good faith support the entry of the Final Approval Order and shall undertake any and all efforts that in good faith are appropriate or necessary to obtain the Final Approval Order. Among other things, the Final Approval Order will approve the terms of this Settlement Agreement as final, fair, reasonable, and adequate and binding on the Parties and all Class Members. In addition, the Final Approval Order will dismiss the action with prejudice, but provide that the Court retains jurisdiction over all matters relating to the interpretation and enforcement of this Settlement Agreement, and the distribution of the Settlement Fund.

6.09 If ~~(A)~~ the Court declines to enter a Preliminary Approval Order or Final Approval

distribution of the Settlement Fund.

6.09 If the Court declines to enter a Preliminary Approval Order or Final Approval Order as described herein, or if the Effective Date does not take place within 6 months of the date of the filing of this Settlement Agreement (or 18 months if there is any appeal of a Final Approval Order by this Court), then either Plaintiffs or Cohen can elect to terminate the Settlement Agreement which must be done in writing to the other party and then the Settlement shall be null and void, shall have no further force and effect with respect to any Party in this case or any Class Member, and neither the Settlement Agreement nor any of its terms shall be used in this case or any other case for any purpose. All monies being held in escrow by Plaintiffs shall be returned to Cohen within seven days of the Settlement Agreement's termination. All negotiations, proceedings, and statements made in connection herewith shall be without prejudice to any person or party, shall not be deemed or construed to be an admission by any party of any act, matter, or proposition and shall not be used in any manner for any purpose in any subsequent proceeding in this case or in any other action or proceeding.

VII. Miscellaneous Provisions

7.01 All Parties to this Settlement Agreement agree to reasonably cooperate in seeking Court approval of the Settlement Agreement and to use their best efforts to effect consummation of the Settlement Agreement.

7.02 All of the exhibits to this Settlement Agreement are an integral part of this Settlement Agreement and part of the contract of the Parties to this Settlement Agreement

7.03 This Settlement Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, all of which together shall be one and the same instrument.

7.04 This Settlement Agreement and its terms shall be governed by the law of the State of Ohio.

7.05 The Court shall retain jurisdiction with respect to enforcement of the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

7.06 This Settlement Agreement, including all exhibits, constitutes the entire, final, and fully-integrated agreement of the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof. This Settlement Agreement may not be modified or amended except in writing signed by each of the Plaintiffs and Cox and the RPI Defendants and any other attempted manner of modification shall be void (and not merely voidable).

7.07 This Settlement Agreement shall be deemed to have been drafted jointly by the Parties, and any rule that a document shall be interpreted against the drafter shall not apply to this Settlement Agreement.

7.08 This Settlement Agreement shall inure to the benefit of the respective heirs, successors, and assigns of the Parties.

7.09 The Second Amended Complaint in this action satisfies Rule 11.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, and intending to be legally bound hereby, the parties hereto have caused the Settlement Agreement to be executed.

DATED: Aug 14, 2015

By: John Capannari
JOHN CAPANNARI
Plaintiff and Class Representative

DATED: _____, 2015

By: _____

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DATED: _____, 2015

By: _____
JOHN CAPANNARI
Plaintiff and Class Representative

DATED: 14 August, 2015

By: John A. Anderson
JOHN A. ANDERSON
Plaintiff and Class Representative

DATED: 8/17, 2015

By: 
KEVIN EICKMANN
Plaintiff and Class Representative

DATED: _____, 2015

By: _____
IRWIN COHEN
Defendant

By: _____
IRWIN COHEN
Defendant

39474

By:
KEVIN EICKMANN

By:
IRWIN COHEN
Defendant

IRWIN COHEN
Defendant

[Handwritten signature]

I am executing this document with the understanding that effective date of the agreement is the date of my signature and payment of the amount set forth in section 4.01 above shall be the following: \$30,000 upon executing the agreement shall be forwarded to Plaintiffs' counsel and within forty-five (45) days of today's date I shall forward to Plaintiffs' counsel an additional \$40,000 which shall be placed into the Settlement Fund. This will satisfy the total settlement payment due from me of